

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL~~SECRET~~

CD NO

JUN 6/49

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 15 JUNE 1949

SUBJECT Political and Economic Notes on
Czechoslovakia
25X1

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

Return to CIA Library

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT OF U. S. C., 51 AND 52, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

25X1

25X1

1. By government edict, the Svaz Brannosti (Defense League) was disbanded during the month of March 1949. The commander of the branch in Vinohradky (P49), Lieutenant Laibl, was arrested for unknown reasons.
2. The penicillin plant in Roztoky near Prague (C51) is reported to have been completed and the machinery, which had been supplied by UNRRA, installed. Present production is still in an experimental stage; normal production is not expected before May 1949. The capacity of this plant will amply fulfill the total Czech penicillin requirements of 10 billion units per month.
3. The slaughtering of cattle in Czechoslovakia has declined to 10 percent of the pre-war figures. Cattle stocks are being gradually replenished by the establishment of "nurturing stations". Meanwhile, frozen meat from the USSR is available in the market.
4. Stocks of basic materials supplied by western countries for the manufacture of medicines are estimated to be in sufficient quantity to satisfy demands for another three to four months. As a result, Spojene Farmacie (United Pharmaceutical Works) is closing down 16 more plants. The 800 persons rendered unemployed by this move will be placed at the disposal of the Labor Office.
5. The Bata Works (Svit) in Zlin (P50) are reported to be shipping 60 percent of their total production to the USSR. This figure applies especially to shoes and shoe manufacturing machinery (Model MAAS). The USSR is also receiving 80 percent of the total automobile tire production of Czechoslovakia, the raw materials for which are supplied by the West. Russia, in exchange for the tires, exports frozen meat. Conditions at the Bata Works are very bad and workers' morale is low. All non-Communists are being discharged. Because of the shortage of raw materials, the quality of goods destined for home consumption is below average. All scrap leather previously disposed of as waste is now being utilized. There is also a considerable shortage of needles for shoemakers' sewing needs and sewing machines.

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

CLASSIFICATION		DISTRIBUTION	
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Document No. 001
No Change in Class. ☐
☒ Declassified
Class. Changed To: TS S C 25X1
Auth.: HQ 70-2
Date: 31 MAR 1998 By: []

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 25X1~~SECRET~~

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

6. A construction project is being carried out on the railroad tunnel near Chocen on the main railroad line Prague - Ceska Trebová. Five workers were arrested at the construction site on suspicion of stealing dynamite. Most of the work is done by laborers and former clerks. The latter were discharged as "unreliable" after the Communist coup in 1948.
7. Arrested Czechoslovak Army officers are being sent to the East by railroad in covered "cargo cars", two of which are usually hitched onto a freight train. Such trains are given priorities, are not allowed to make any unscheduled stops, and are guarded by reinforced SNB posts at all stations where a stop is demanded for technical reasons or otherwise. At the beginning of March 1949 an explosive charge (tritol-tabloid) was found on a railroad switch at Ceska Trebová Station just a few minutes before one of the above-mentioned trains was scheduled to pass through.

25X1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECRET~~